
SENATE BILL 5342

State of Washington

69th Legislature

2025 Regular Session

By Senators Christian and Frame

Read first time 01/17/25. Referred to Committee on Human Services.

1 AN ACT Relating to providing access for legislators to facilities
2 owned and operated by the state; and adding a new section to chapter
3 72.01 RCW.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 72.01
6 RCW to read as follows:

7 (1) Any currently elected member of the legislature may request
8 to access the premises of any facility or institution owned and
9 operated by the state by the department of corrections, department of
10 children, youth, and families, or department of social and health
11 services. Such access shall be afforded by the department upon
12 request of the member within 48 hours of receipt of the member's
13 written request to access the state facility, which shall not be
14 limited to business days. Access includes, but is not limited to, a
15 tour of the state facility or to meet with a constituent under their
16 custody.

17 (2) If the member requests to access a state facility at a date
18 beyond 48 hours from the date of the request, the department shall
19 provide a response within 48 hours of receipt of the member's
20 request.

1 (3) If an agency listed under this section fails to comply with
2 the timing requirements under subsection (1) of this section, it
3 shall respond to the member of the legislature with the reason for
4 the delay and a plan to facilitate the access request.

5 (4) Requests made under this section shall be submitted in
6 writing to the legislative affairs office for the department, or an
7 office designated by the secretary of the department to receive such
8 requests.

9 (5) The requirements of this section do not apply to facilities
10 owned and operated by local governments or facilities operated under
11 contract with the state.

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